

UTEX Communications Corp. d/b/a Feature Group IP  
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Tariff FCC No. 1  
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transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

## 2.9 Notices and Communications

2.9.1 The Customer shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.

2.9.2 All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this Tariff shall be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third (3rd) business day following deposit of the notice, communication, or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.

2.9.3 The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein

## 2.10 Definitions

Certain terms used generally throughout this Tariff for Services of this Company are defined below.

### Access

For purposes of this Tariff, "Access" is synonymous with "Exchange Access" as defined in § 153(16) of the Communications Act. An entity that does not provide Telephone Toll service may also voluntarily subscribe to Access.

### Access Code

Denotes a uniform seven digit code assigned by a Local Exchange Company to an individual Interexchange Carrier. The seven digit code has the form 101XXXX or 950-XXXX.

### Access Customer Name Abbreviation (ACNA)

Denotes a three alphanumeric character code that identifies Legacy PSTN Carriers from which Access Services bills are generated when the PSTN Carrier provides originating or terminating per minute Traffic.

### Access Customer Terminal Location (ACTL)

Denotes the eleven (11) character Common Language Location Identifier (CLLI) code identifying the Feature Group IP's Point of Presence (POP/InterLATA Facility terminal location) for the PSTN.

### Access Minutes

FeatureGroup  
713.231.2310

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Denotes the purchase of usage based Exchange Access facilities by an Interexchange Carrier, Local Exchange Carrier or CMRS Carrier for the purpose of providing interstate or foreign telecommunications service.

Access Node

Denotes a Local Exchange Company central office (CO Access Node) or a customer designated premises (Premises Access Node) equipped to interface with a Legacy Interexchange Carrier.

Access Tandem - Interexchange

Denotes a Telephone Company switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating Switched Access traffic between Local Exchange Carriers and Legacy Interexchange Carriers and CMRS Carriers.

Access Service or Switched Access Service

Access to the switched network of an Exchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications. Access Service is available to carriers as defined herein.

Access Service Request (ASR)

An industry service order format used by Access Service customers and access providers as agreed to by the Ordering and Billing Forum.

Advance Payment

Payment of all or part of a charge required before the start of service.

Alternate Access

Alternate Access has the same meaning as Local Access except that the provider of the service is an entity other than the local Exchange Carrier authorized or permitted to provide such service. The charges for Alternate Access may be specified in a private agreement rather than in a published or special Tariff if private agreements are permitted by applicable governmental rules.

Authorized User

A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to use Services or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to use Services. A Joint User is one example, but not the only kind, of Authorized User.

Bit

The smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

Callable E-mail Address

A Session Internet Protocol (SIP) method of completing a call to an IGL-POP location customer not using the PSTN.

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Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier or Exchange Carrier.

Channel(s)

An electrical or, in the case of fiber optic-based transmission systems, a photonic communications path between two or more points of termination.

Common Channel Signaling (CCS)

A high speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. It is used to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between signaling points in the CCS network.

Company

UTEX Communications Corporation d/b/a FeatureGroup IP, which is the issuer of this Tariff.

Commission

Federal Communications Commission

Conventional Signaling

The inter-machine signaling system has been traditionally used in North America for the purpose of transmitting the called number's address digits from the originating Local Switching Office which terminates the call. In this system, all of the dialed digits are received by the originating switch, a path is selected, and the sequence of supervisory signals and outpulsed digits is initiated. No overlap outpulsing ten digit ANI, ANI information digits, or acknowledgment link are included in this signaling sequence.

Customer

The person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders or obtains Service and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's Tariff regulations.

Duplex Service

Service which provides for simultaneous transmission in both directions.

800 Data Base Access Service

The term "800 Data Base Access Service" denotes a toll-free originating Trunk-side Access Service when the 8XX Service Access Code (i.e., 800, 822, 833, 844, 855, 866, 877, or 888 as available) is used. The term 8XX is used interchangeably with 800 Data Base Service throughout this Tariff to describe this service.

End User

End User means any customer of an interstate or foreign telecommunications service that is

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not a carrier except that a carrier shall be deemed to be an "end user" when such carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes. A person or entity that offers telecommunications services exclusively as a reseller shall be deemed to be an "end user" if all resale transmissions offered by such reseller originate on the premises of such reseller. A person or entity that utilizes IGI-POP services shall be deemed to be an "end user" even if such an entity resells all or part of the service.

End Point

A network appearance that initiates and receives messages and signals related to telephony service. End Points may be real or virtual in nature and many may be present in a given platform. An End Point is a participant in a Call Session; the user supported by the Responsible Service Provider. There will be at least two kinds of End Points. (1) The Originating End Point, which sends the call control set-up message for a call session, or on whose behalf the Responsible Service Provider sends the call control set-up message for a call session; and, (2) the Terminating End Point, to whom the call session is addressed, perhaps through one or more Service Providers.

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End Point User

End Point User means the same thing as "End User" except that the customer may subscribe to services or obtain functionalities other than or in addition to telecommunications service, such as enhanced and/or information service.

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Enhanced Service

"Enhanced service" means voice mail, Internet service (including Voice Over Internet service), tele-messaging services, information services and other services a FeatureGroup IP customer states is an enhanced service under Section 153(20) of the Act and/or 47 CFR § 64.702.

Enhanced Service Provider or ESP

ESPs include but are not limited to voice mail companies, Internet Service Providers, Information Service Providers and tele-messaging companies. For purposes of this agreement, all ESPs, whether affiliated or not, are to be treated as End Users if the ESP avails itself of the ESP exemption upon order of service from FeatureGroup IP.

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ESP Exemption

The "ESP Exemption" is an affirmative exercise of federal regulatory authority over interstate service whereby, despite heavy use of interstate service, the FCC allows ESPs to purchase flat rated local service to terminate and originate traffic over Local Exchange Carrier and CMRS networks without creating any liability for the payment of traditional Exchange Access charges. When an ESP takes advantage of the ESP exemption, it is exempt from being charged Interstate or Intrastate Interexchange services on a usage sensitive basis. An ESP, at its election, may choose to not avail itself of the ESP exemption and instead subscribe to interstate Access tariffs such as the new SBC TIPTOP tariff. Feature Group IP shall only sell IGI-POP services to entities which claim the ESP Exemption.

Ethernet Voice Session (EVS)

Denotes a unit for measuring the number of simultaneous unique IP voice communication paths which can occur over a physical Internet Connection to the IGI-POP.

Exchange Carrier (or Local Exchange Carrier)

Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in the provision of telephone exchange or exchange access service. The Company may be considered an Exchange Carrier for some purposes, depending on the context.

Exchange Access

"Exchange Access" means the offering of access to telephone exchange services or facilities for the purpose of the origination or termination of telephone toll services.

Fiber Optic Cable

A thin filament of glass with a protective outer coating through which a light beam carrying communications signals may be transmitted by means of multiple internal reflections to a receiver, which translates the message.

Firm Order Confirmation (FOC)

Acknowledgment by the Company of receipt of an Service Request from the Customer and commitment by the Company of a Service Date.

Hub

The Company office where all facilities are terminated for purposes of interconnection to Trunks and/or cross-connection to distant ends.

Incumbent LEC

The Local Exchange Carrier that, with respect to an area:

(A) on the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, provided telephone exchange service in such area; and

(B)(i) on such date of enactment, was deemed to be a member of the exchange carrier association pursuant to section 69.601(b) of the Commission's regulations (47 C.F.R. 69.601(b)); or (ii) is a person or entity that, on or after such date of enactment, became a successor or assign of a member described in clause (i).

Individual Case Basis

A service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer's situation.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier (IXC)

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Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in state or foreign communication for hire by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges, insofar as the IC is acting as a common carrier.

International Direct Distance Dialing (IDDD)

Denotes the capability of switching international calls with service prefix and address codes having more digits than are capable of being switched through a FGD connection with a Legacy Interexchange Carrier.

Internet Protocol (IP) Access Connection

Denotes a connection between an Internet Service Provider and an Internet Service Provider Customer which uses communication services such as; dial-up access, dedicated Basic Rate Interface ISDN access through the PSTN, Cable Modem, DSL Line, Dedicated or fractional DS1 to internet, Dedicated or fractional DS3, licensed or unlicensed wireless, or other IP connections including various forms of Ethernet connections.

Information access

Denotes the provision of telecommunications services to an enhanced and/or information service provider.

Information service

"Information service" means the offering of a capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information via telecommunications, and includes electronic publishing, but does not include any use of any such capability for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or the management of a telecommunications service.

IntraLATA Interexchange Traffic

"IntraLATA Interexchange Traffic" means telephone toll service purposefully purchased out of published intrastate tariffs from a Legacy carrier.

Interconnected PSTN Provider

Any provider of service that has been directly assigned geographic or non-geographic numbering resources (E.164 addresses) by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, including but not limited to (1) a Legacy carrier, or, (2) an Interconnected VoIP Service Provider that has obtained a waiver from the FCC allowing direct assignment.

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InterLATA Interexchange Traffic

"InterLATA Interexchange Traffic" means telephone toll service purposefully purchased out of published intrastate or interstate tariffs from a Legacy carrier.

Internet Service Provider (ISP)

An ISP is any person or entity that provides the ability for its customers to access the features, functions and information including but not limited to VoIP, available over the

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Internet or a private IP network (Internet access) sometimes using the public switched telephone network for originating and/or terminating traffic. Consistent with the FCC's Light Regulatory Touch policy, FeatureGroup IP will not limit or restrict the service it provides to ISPs.

Internet Gateway Intermediation

Denotes the intermediation and interoperability of non-Legacy Voice over Internet Protocol technologies with a Legacy standard Signaling System such as SS-7 or Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) technologies. Typically this involves at a minimum the mapping of one or more North American numbering plan addresses and associated signaling information to Internet Protocol identifiers which create an Internet Session. Such sessions may be set up using IP addresses, Domain Names, e-mail addresses and/or by other means.

Internet Gateway Intermediation Point of Presence (IGI-POP)

Denotes a physical location within a LATA where FeatureGroup IP has established IP Technology interfaces to intermediate voice traffic to and from the Legacy public switched telephone network (PSTN) for the purpose of facilitating the origination and receipt of traffic between Internet Service Providers' (ISP) users and customers (including Voice over Internet) and users and customers served by Legacy Local Exchange Carriers, CMRS providers and Legacy IXCs.

IGI-POP Traffic

Denotes traffic originating from or terminating to an IP interface on Feature Group IP's network. This may or may not involve use of the public Internet. When originating from or terminating to a user of the Legacy PSTN, such traffic is converted to or from IP from or to traditional voice at a fixed location within the LATA. Consistent with the FCC's Light Regulatory Touch policy, such intermediated traffic shall be treated as ESP Exemption qualified traffic for rating purposes between CMRS and Local Exchange Carriers in the LATA in which the IGI-POP Local Calling Area is located. For example, traffic going to and from an IGI-POP in the Houston LATA will be considered "Local" Houston Traffic regardless of the ultimate use and physical location of new technology users on the "Internet" side of the communication if the Situs of the IGI-POP is within the calling scope of the connecting LEC or CMRS provider. Likewise for traditional Houston LATA 1+ traffic which originates and terminates to the Situs of the IGI-POP customer in the Houston LATA, Feature Group IP will rate such traffic as if it were normal jointly provided access terminating to a "Houston LATA Customer" regardless of the ultimate use and physical location of new technology users on the "Internet" side of the communication.

ISP Customer

Denotes a person (including another ISP) utilizing an ISP's service in whole or in part.

ISP Customer Voice Identification Information

For all IGI-POP voice traffic coming from or going to an ISP Customer. FeatureGroup IP shall endeavor to pass an interoperable or "Callable" e-mail address as the NANP Calling

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Party Name, and if applicable customer provided ANI, Charge Number, any privacy indicator and an originating and terminating number dialed if (1) such information exists, and (2) there is technically feasible way to pass such information. Such information shall not have any bearing on how the call is rated.

Joint User

A person, firm or corporation designated by the Customer as a user of facilities furnished to the Customer by the Company, and to whom a portion of the charges for such facilities are billed under a joint use arrangement. A Joint User is a form of Authorized User.

Jointly Provided Access

Denotes the joint provision of switched or special access service by two or more Local Exchange Carriers within a LATA to support Telephone Toll service offered by a Legacy IXC. IGI-POP service traffic shall not be considered Jointly Provided Access.

Kbps

Kilobits, or thousands of Bits, per second.

LATA

A local access and transport area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192 for the provision and administration of communications services.

Legacy

Connotes traditional circuit-switched technology and corresponding rate and policy developed and used in the United States communications system between the years of 1930 and 1996. During this period most technology was developed and deployed via vertically integrated monopoly systems blessed by various government entities and laws. In general, the underlying policy of this regulated environment was to promote "universality" of being able to send and receive "local" communications within a local "community of interest." As part of this system, "non-local" or "toll" services were priced significantly above cost to subsidize "universal local service." In 1996 the United States passed the 1996 amendments to the Communications Act which recognized and promoted alternative technologies and promoted the general policies of simulated market conditions (i.e. cost based interconnection), and also recognized that the cost structure of communications has been dramatically altered (by a combination of digital switching capabilities and alternative fiber and wireless transport). These amendments and other legislation also promote the current cost based mutual exchange of traffic between and interoperability of Legacy networks and non-legacy networks and also expanded the promotion of "universality" to the growing and developing global communication system known as the Internet. Often, many disputes between incumbents and insurgents revolve around the deployment of new technology and the fact that the new technology and the services and applications it supports threaten the Legacy technology and policy. This conflict between Legacy policies and the new emphasis on cost based pricing providing an equal opportunity to compete and the desire to encourage

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development of new technology was expected to be disruptive to the Legacy incumbents monopoly position and revenue streams.

Light Regulatory Touch

The Stated FCC policy of allowing the natural technological and economic evolution of VOIP services to take place without applying the burdensome regulations and hidden subsidy inter-carrier rate and compensation scheme of the regulated Legacy telecommunication network to retard the growth of the still-nascent VoIP industry and the technologies that support VoIP.

Line Information Data Base (LIDB)

Denotes a data base system containing certain call processing attributes of working telephone numbers or accounts. The attributes provide customers with information that can be used to facilitate completion of calls or services and the processing of them.

Local Access

A dedicated or switched connection between two points within a LATA that is subject to this Tariff.

Local Access and Transport Area (LATA)

Denotes a geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic and other purposes.

Local Calling Area (LCA)

Represented by one or more rate centers from which originating and terminating traffic may complete a call without incurring Message Telecommunications Service (MTS) or Telephone Toll charges. Typically there is a 1+ retail "toll indicator" for non LCA calls. Unless otherwise stated, the IGI-POP local calling area shall include all rate centers of all calling scopes which overlap in whole or in part the incumbent local calling scope of the Situs location of the IGI-POP including the calling area of CMRS providers. For all SBC traffic in Texas, pursuant to the existing UTEX/SBC Interconnection agreement, Feature Group IP shall treat all traffic originated from or terminated to the IGI-POP as having no intercarrier compensation due, and thus will treat all IGI-POP traffic to or from SBC users within the LATA as Local to our customers.

Local Exchange Carrier

Means any person that is engaged in the provision of Telephone Exchange Service or Exchange Access. Such term does not include a person insofar as such person is engaged in the provision of a commercial mobile service under section 332(c), except to the extent that the Commission finds that such service should be included in the definition of such term.

Local Interconnection

Denotes the physical joining of two or more Local Exchange Carriers' networks within a

LATA for the mutual exchange of traffic within the LATA in which they have directly or indirectly joined their networks.

Local Tandem

Denotes a Telephone Company switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating Local/IntraLATA traffic between Local Exchange Carriers within a single LATA.

Location Routing Number (LRN)

Denotes a NPA-NXX-XXXX within a NXX that is assigned to a switch that serves ported numbers. The LRN is associated with ported numbers in the Local Number Portability data base along with the appropriate CCS/SS7 Point Code for the designated switch (i.e., the recipient switch) that is required to route calls directed to ported numbers working out of the switch.

Local Switching Office

The switching office where customer station Channels are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice Trunks.

Mbps

Megabits, or millions of Bits, per second.

Meet Point Billing

The arrangement through which multiple Exchange Carriers involved in providing Access Services, divide the ordering, rating, and billing of such services on a proportional basis, so that each Exchange Carrier involved in providing a portion of the Access Service agrees to bill under its respective Tariff.

Mobile Telephone Switching Office

Denotes a Mobile Carrier's switching system that is used to connect to mobile stations for the purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks interfacing with the public switched network.

Non-Toll Traffic

Denotes all traffic which is not specifically rated as either "IntraLATA Interexchange Traffic" or "InterLATA Interexchange Traffic."

Non-Recurring Charges

The one-time initial charges for services or facilities, including but not limited to charges for construction, installation, or special fees, for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

North American Numbering Plan (NANP)

Denotes a three-digit Numbering Plan Area (NPA) code and a seven-digit telephone number

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made up of a three-digit Central Office code (NXX) plus a four-digit station, directory or line number.

Off-Hook

The active condition of switched access or a telephone exchange service line.

Off-Net

A Customer is considered to be Off-Net when its Point of Presence is not served by the same Hub in which the Company's Local Switching Center, which is providing service to the Customer, is located.

On-Hook

The idle condition of switched access or a telephone exchange service line.

On-Net:

A Customer is considered to be On-Net when its Point of Presence is served by the same Hub in which the Company's Local Switching Center, which is providing service to the Customer, is located.

Operator Services

Denotes any telecommunications service that includes any automatic or live assistance to a consumer to arrange for billing or completion, or both, of a telephone call.

Out of Band Signaling

A signaling feature which allows Customers, Carriers and the Company to exchange call control and signaling information over a communications path which is separate from the message or bearer path.

Point of Presence

Location where the Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

Premises

The space occupied by a Customer or Authorized User in a building or buildings or on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

Presubscription

For Access Service purposes, an arrangement whereby a Customer's Authorized User may select and designate to the Company an Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Carriers that may be accessed, without an Access Code. The selected IXC(s) are referred to as the Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC). The Authorized User may select any IXC that orders FGD Access Service at the Local Switching Center that serves the Authorized User.

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Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)

A common carrier switched network, operated by Local Exchange Carriers, Interexchange Carriers, and/or CMRS providers, that uses the North American Numbering Plan in connection with the provision of switched services.

Rate

The price for all applicable fixed and traffic sensitive charges.

Recurring Charges

The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Responsible Service Provider

A Service Provider that maintains a direct customer relationship with the End Point User represented by the UGT is deemed the Responsible Service Provider.

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Service Commencement Date

The first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this Tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance of service. The parties may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date. If the Company does not have an executed Service Order from a Customer, the Service Commencement Date will be the first date on which the service or facility was used by the Customer.

Service Order

The written request for network services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format devised by the Company; or, in the alternative, the submission of an Access Service Request by the Customer in the manner specified in this Tariff. The signing of a Service Order or submission of an ASR by the Customer and acceptance thereof by the Company usually initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this Tariff, but the duration of the service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date.

Service Switching Point (SSP)

A Service Switching Point denotes an end office or tandem which is equipped to query centralized databases.

Serving Wire Center

The wire center from which the Customer's designated Premises obtains connectivity to the Public Switched Telephone Network.

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Service(s)

The Company's Services offered on the Company's Network.

Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)

SIP is an application layer control protocol for creating, modifying and terminating sessions with one or more participants. These sessions include VoIP traffic, of which IGI-POP traffic is a subset. SIP is a developing standard which follows the guidelines set out in the IETF document RFC 2543 and 3261.

Shared Facilities

A facility or equipment system or subsystem which can be used simultaneously by several customers.

Signaling Point of Interface

The Customer designated location where SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer, if the Customer directly connects to the SS7 "cloud" or if the customer obtains Signaling Transfer Point Access from the Company.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

The common channel out of band signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Signaling Transfer Point Access

Allows the Customer to access a specialized switch which provides SS7 network access and performs SS7 messaging routing and screening.

Situs

For IGI-POP Service, the Access Customer Terminal Location (ACTL) of the IGI-POP shall be used to determine situs for purposes of determining and assessing all regulatory fees, surcharges and taxes that are passed through to or directly imposed on Customer. Each simultaneous Ethernet Voice Session (EVS) shall be considered the equivalent of a Single Line Business for regulatory and taxing purposes.

Tandem Network

Denotes the network of trunk groups for originating and/or terminating Telephone Exchange, Exchange Access and/or information access traffic between a single Access Tandem or Local Tandem and Local Exchange Carrier Company end offices subtending that tandem.

Telephone Exchange Service

(A) service within a telephone exchange, or within a connected system of telephone exchanges within the same exchange area operated to furnish to subscribers intercommunicating service of the character ordinarily furnished by a single exchange, and which is covered by the exchange service charge, or (B) comparable service provided

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through a system of switches, transmission equipment, or other facilities (or combination thereof) by which a subscriber can originate and terminate a telecommunications service.

Telephone Toll Service

Telephone service between stations in different exchange areas for which there is made a separate charge not included in contracts with subscribers for exchange service. IGI-POP Services which exchange traffic within the LCA of the IGI-POP are not considered Telephone Toll Service.

Toll Free

A term to describe an inbound communications service which permits a call to be completed at a location without charge to the calling party. Access to the service is gained by dialing a ten (10) digit telephone number (e.g. NPA is 800, 866, 877, 888, etc) or if the call can be completed without the user having to dial 1+.

Transit Service Provider:

For purposes of IGI-POP, a Service Provider who offers third party termination or origination services to a Responsible Service Provider for the purpose of providing services to the End Point User.

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Trunk

A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

Universal Emergency Telephone Number (911) Service

Wherever feasible, the Company will provide a universal Central Office number "911" for the use of Public Safety Agencies having responsibility to protect the safety and property of the general public. It is intended that use of 911 Services will provide the public with a means of simple and direct telephone access to a public safety answering point. In some instances, 911 may be "basic" or "enhanced" 911. In some instances, connection to a 911 Public Safety Agency may be provided through use of a regular 7 or 10 digit NANP address.

Universal Global Title (UGT)

A unique identifier assigned by a Service Provider to identify an End Point. A given UGT has a mandatory representation as a variable-length UTF-8 encoded string as specified by URI [RFC3986].

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VoIP

Denotes a "telephony" application made possible by the Internet Protocol. VoIP may involve use of a purely private IP network or it may involve use of the public Internet in whole or in part.

Wire Center

A building in which one or more central offices, used for providing connectivity to the

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Public Switched Telephone Network as part of Telephone Exchange, Exchange Access, Information Access or Telephone Toll Services, are located. A Wire Center may also be an aggregation point for purposes of or supporting the provision of other telecommunications or enhanced/information services.

### 3.0 COMMON LINE SERVICE

The Company will provide Common Line Access Service to Customers and Authorized Users in conjunction with the Switched Access Service provided in Section 6 of this Tariff.

#### 3.1 General Description

Carrier Common Line Access provides for the use of one or more Company provided common lines by Customers for access to Authorized Users to furnish Communications Services.

Customer Access Line Charge recovers a portion of the cost of Company provided common lines to Customers and Authorized Users to facilitate access to the interstate Public Switched Telephone Network, including but not limited to the ability to make and receive telephone toll calls and to access information services.

#### 3.2 Rates and Charges

There is no separate charge for Carrier Common Line Service.

Customer Access Line Charge (CALC):

##### Monthly Recurring Charge

Per voice grade equivalent line

Residential and Business (including BRI) \$5.21

Multi-line Business \$5.21 per VG channel

ISDN PRI \$49.01 per port

### 4.0 -- 5.0 RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

### 6.0 ACCESS SERVICE

#### 6.1 Provision and Description of Access Service Arrangements:

##### 6.1.1 Rate Categories

6.1.1(A) The following rate categories apply to Access Service:

6.1.1(A)1. Common Line, described in Section 3.

6.1.1(A)2. Local Transport

6.1.1(A)3. Tandem Switched Transport

6.1.1(A)4. Local Switching

6.1.1(A)5. Information Surcharge

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6.1.1(A)6. Optional Features

6.1.1(B) Local Transport

Local Transport rates are made up of a Local Transport Termination rate which is assessed on a per transmission path per access minute basis, and a Local Transport Facility rate assessed on a per mile per access minute basis.

6.1.1(B)1 The Local Transport Termination rate provides for the communications frequency transmission path at the Company switching office and includes the Local Transport portion of Central Office Switching and Central Office Circuit equipment (i.e., signaling, transmission devices, padding, carrier channels, etc.). Local Transport charges are applicable only for the portion of the service provided by the Company.

6.1.1(B)2 The Local Transport Facility rate category establishes the charges related to the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer designated premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications. For purposes of determining Local Transport Facility measurement, distance will be measured from the wire center that normally serves the customer designated premises to the end office switch, which may be a Remote Switching Module(s) or other switching fabric.

Local Transport is a two-way voice frequency transmission path composed of facilities determined by the Company. The two-way voice frequency transmission path permits the transport of calls in the originating direction (from the calling party's end office switch to the Customer designated Premises) and in the terminating direction (from the Customer designated Premises to the called party's end office switch), but not simultaneously. The voice frequency transmission path may be comprised of any form or configuration of plant capable of and typically used in the telecommunications industry for the transmission of voice and associated telephone signals within the frequency bandwidth of approximately 300 to 3000 Hz.

6.1.1(C) Tandem Switched Transport

The Tandem Switched Transport rate elements recover a portion of the costs associated with the communications path between the serving wire center and the end office or between the tandem and the end office on circuits that are switched at a tandem switch. Tandem Switched Transport rates consists of a Tandem Switching rate, a Tandem Switched Facility rate, and a Tandem Switched Termination rate.

The Tandem Switching rate recovers a portion of the costs of switching traffic through an access tandem. The Tandem Switching rate is applied on a per access minute per tandem basis for all originating and all terminating minutes of use switched at the tandem.

The Tandem Switched Facility rate recovers a portion of the costs of the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of

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the interoffice circuits. The Tandem Switched Facility rate is applied on a per access minute per mile basis for all originating and terminating minutes of use routed over the facility.

The Tandem Switched Termination rate recovers a portion of the costs of the circuit equipment that is necessary for the termination of each end of the Tandem Switched Facility. The Tandem Switched Termination rate is applied on a per access minute basis (for all originating and terminating minutes of use routed over the facility) at each end of each measured segment of Tandem Switched Facility (e.g., at the end office, host office, tandem and serving wire center). When the Tandem Switched Facility mileage is zero, neither the Tandem Switched Facility rate nor the Tandem Switched Termination rate will apply.

6.1.1(D) Local Switching

The Local Switching rate element establishes the charges related to the use of end office switching equipment, the terminations in the end office of End User lines, and the terminations of calls at Company Intercept Operators or recordings.

6.1.1(E) Information Surcharge

The Information Surcharge rate element provides for white page publication. Information Surcharge rates are assessed to a customer based on the total number of access minutes. Information Surcharge rates are as set forth in 6.9.5 following.

6.1.1(F) Optional Features

Optional Features: Various optional features are available in lieu of, or in addition to, the standard features provided with the Feature Groups for Access Service.

6.1.1(F)1. Design Layout Report

Upon availability, and at the request of the Customer, the Company will provide to the Customer the makeup of the facilities and services provided from the Customer's Premises to the first point of switching. This information will be provided in the form of a Design Layout Report. The Design Layout Report will be provided to the Customer at no charge.

6.1.1(F)2. Acceptance Testing

At no additional charge, the Company will, at the Customer's Request, cooperatively test, at the time of installation, the following parameters: loss, C-notched noise, C-message noise, 3-tone slope, d.c. continuity and operational signaling.

6.1.1(F)3. Competitive Pricing Arrangements: Competitive pricing arrangements can be furnished to meet the communication needs of specific customers on a case by case basis under individual contract.

6.2 Signaling Layer Translation Service

6.2.1 Description of Service.

Signaling Layer Translation Service provides signaling layer information in SS7 format to

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Legacy Carriers, including LECs, IXCs, and CMRS carriers, that they may in turn use for those purposes for which the SS7 information fields were created to fulfill, *e.g.*, call set-up, tear-down and for operation of CLASS features. Non-Legacy technology, including but not limited to SIP-based communication applications do not operate using, and do not typically have information that can be directly and automatically recognized and populated in SS7 format absent translation from SIP signaling to SS7 signaling.

#### 6.2.2 Scope of Service and Application for Service

Company will offer to interconnect directly or indirectly at the signaling or application layer with any Legacy carrier using SIP for those communications traversing Company's network that are Internet-based. SIP is an application layer protocol for establishing, terminating and modifying multimedia sessions. It is typically carried over IP. Voice based sessions are considered a type of multimedia sessions where just audio is exchanged. Any LEC, IXC or CMRS carrier that refuses to interconnect using SIP for communications traversing Company's network and instead desires to have signaling layer communications occur via SS7 for Internet-based traffic shall be deemed to have ordered Signaling Layer Translation Service.

##### 6.2.2(A) Information and Call Control Fields

Signaling Layer Translation Service populates the information and call control fields or parameters (hereinafter "fields") used in SS7 to enable completion of voice calls and CLASS service functionality between traditional PSTN users and users of different technology platforms, including but not limited to SIP. The specific SS7 fields that will be populated using information (if it exists) from analogous or roughly analogous SIP fields are:

6.2.2(A).1 Calling Party Number (CPN). The CPN parameter will be populated as follows:

6.2.2(A).1.a To the extent that the signaling information contained in the Internet-based traffic application layer protocol has an identifiable number that corresponds to a working North America Numbering Plan E.164 address, and is intended to represent the identity of the party that initiated the session, that number will be populated in the CPN field, unchanged.

6.2.2(A).1.b To the extent that the signaling information contained in the Internet-based traffic application layer protocol has a number that appears to represent an Instant Messaging (IM) client number, Company will populate the IM client number in the CPN field, unless the IM client number would conflict with or potentially be confused with a valid NANPA E.164 address.

6.2.2(A).1.c To the extent that the signaling information contained in the Internet-based traffic application layer protocol has a number that appears to represent an IP number, Company will populate the IP number in the CPN field, unless the IP number would conflict with or potentially be confused with a valid NANPA E.164 address.

6.2.2(A).1.d Company's IGI-POP Customer or an IP layer peer of the Company may choose to have Company populate the CPN field with Company's LRN for the LATA in which the IGI-POP Customer has Situs for initiated sessions that do not have the information covered by 6.2.2(A).1.a, 6.2.2(A).1.b or 6.2.2(A).1.c above or if the IM client number or IP number would conflict with or potentially be confused with a valid NANPA E.164 address. If the IGI-POP customer or IP layer peer choose to not have Company populate the CPN field with Company's LRN, then the CPN field will be left null.

6.3 – 6.4 Reserved for Future Use.

#### 6.5. Optional Features

Following are descriptions of the various optional features that are available in lieu of, or in addition to, the standard features provided with the Feature Groups for Access Service.

##### 6.5.1. Chargeable Optional Features

###### 6.5.1(A) 800 Data Base Access Service

800 Data Base Access Service is provided with FGD Switched Access Service. When an 800-type (e.g., Service area codes: 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833 and 822), call is originated by an Telephone Exchange Service user (whether served by Company or another LEC), the Company will utilize the Signaling System 7 (SS7) network to query an 800 data base to perform the identification function. The 800 Service Provider will be identified from the dialed 800 number (e.g., 1+800+NXX-XXXX or 1+888+NXX+XXXX). The 800 Service Provider has the option of receiving the dialed 800 number (e.g., 1+800+NXX+XXXX or 1+888+NXX+XXXX) or a translated ten-digit POTS number (i.e., 1+NPA+NXX+XXXX). The call will then be routed to the identified customer over FGD switched access.

800 Data Base Access Service Query charges as set forth in 6.9.8 following are in addition to those charges applicable for the Feature Group D switched access service.

6.5.1(B) Signaling Transfer Point Access: The Customer will be charged a per mile charge and a per port charge for access to a specialized switch which provides SS7 network access and performs SS7 messaging routing and screening. If a Customer is connected to a third party SS7 service provider, an additional charge will apply.

Signaling Transfer Point Access charges as set forth in 6.9.8 following are in addition to those charges applicable for the Feature Group D switched access service.

###### 6.5.1(C) Network Blocking Charge

The customer will be notified by the Company to increase its capacity (busy hour minutes of capacity or quantities of trunks) when excessive trunk group blocking occurs on groups carrying FGD traffic and the measured access minutes for that hour exceed the capacity

purchased. Excessive trunk group blocking occurs when the blocking thresholds stated below are exceeded. They are predicated on time consistent, hourly measurements over a 30 day period excluding Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays. If the order for additional capacity has not been received by the Company within 15 days of the notification, the Company will bill the customer, for each overflow in excess of the blocking threshold when (1) the average "30 day period" overflow exceeds the threshold level for any particular hour and (2) the "30 day period" measured average originating or two-way usage for the same clock hour exceeds the capacity purchased.

**6.5.1(D)      Blocking Thresholds**

The 1% blocking threshold is for transmission paths carrying traffic direct (without an alternate route) between an end office and a Customer's premises. The 1/2% blocking threshold is for transmission paths carrying first routed traffic between an end office and a Customer's premises via an access tandem.

Network Blocking charges are in addition to those charges applicable for the Feature Group D switched access service.

**6.5.1(E)      Call Handling and Validation**

The call handling and destination features allow routing of 800 calls based on one or any combination of the following: time of day, day of week, percent allocation, and specific 10 digit ANI. This is a charge/rate in addition to the 800 D base query charge.

**6.5.2      Reserved for Future Use**

**6.5.3      Feature Group D Optional Features**

**6.5.3(A)      Common Switching Optional Features**

**6.5.3(A)1.      Automatic Number Identification (ANI)**

This option provides the automatic inband transmission signaling of a seven (7) or ten (10) digit number and information digits to the Customer's Premises for calls originating in the LATA for the identification of the calling station. The ANI feature is a Local Switching Office function which is associated on a call-by-call basis with: 1) all individual transmission paths in a trunk group routed directly between a Local Switching Office and Customer's Premises; or where technically feasible, 2) all individual transmission paths in a trunk group between a Local Switching Office and an Access Tandem, and a trunk group between an Access Tandem and a Customer's Premises.

The ten-digit number with ANI is only available with Feature Group D. The ten digit ANI number consists of the Number Plan Area (NPA) plus the seven digit telephone number. The ten-digit ANI number will be transmitted on all calls except those identified as multi-party line or ANI failure, in which case only the NPA will be transmitted.

6.5.3(A)2. Cut-Through

This option allows Telephone Exchange Service users (whether served by Company or another LEC) to reach the Customer's Premises by using the end of dialing digit (#) at the end of the dialing sequence. The Company will not record any other digits for these calls.

6.5.3(A)3. Signaling System Seven (SS7)

This option provides out of band transmission of SS7 protocol signaling information between the Local Serving Office switching system and the switched access Customer's designated Premises. Prior to installation of any SS7 circuits, the Customer must agree to participate in SS7 certification testing. The Company will provide a testing plan to the Customer, and reserves the right to deny SS7 connectivity if the Customer's circuits do not meet the testing requirements.

6.5.3(A)4. Basic Initial Address Message Delivery

This option permits the following optional SS7 signaling call setup parameter in association with switched access: User Service Information, Called Party Number, Calling Party Number, Charge Number, Originating Line Information, Transit Network Selection, Carrier Selection, Service Code and Access Transport.

6.5.3(A)5. Called Number Delivery

This option provides the switched access Customer with the telephone number to which the call was directed. The seven or ten digit number is provided as part of the in-band transmission with MF signaling. The Called Number Delivery feature is associated on a call-by-call basis with all individual transmission paths in a Trunk group routed from an Access Tandem or the originating Local Switching Center. This option is available except when FGD is provided with Cut-Through features.

6.5.3(A)6. Flexible Automatic Number Identification Delivery

This feature is available on inbound signaling or in the Originating Line Information Parameter in the Basic Initial Address Message Delivery switched access optional feature for SS7 signaling. Flexible ANI will provide addition values for Information Indicator (II) digits that are associated with various classes of service not associated with the standard ANI digits. This feature may only be used in conjunction with ANI. The following information Indicator codes are available: Confinement/Detention Facility; Outward Wide Area Telecommunications Service; Cellular Service; Private Pay Station; and, Access for Private Virtual Networks.

6.6. Access Services Rates and Charges

6.6.1 Description of Rates and Charges

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Access Service. These are monthly Recurring Charges. Usage Rates and Non-Recurring Charges including Installation of Service charges.

6.6.1(A) Monthly Recurring Charges

Monthly Recurring Charges are flat rates for facilities that apply each month or fraction thereof that a specific rate element is provided.

6.6.1(B) Usage Rates

Usage rates are rates that are applied on a per minute, per query or per translation session basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period with fractional usage rounded up to the next full minute, if applicable.

6.6.1(C) Non-Recurring Charges

Non-Recurring charges are one time charges that apply for a specific work activity (i.e., installation of new service or change to an existing service). Nonrecurring charges are applicable for installation of services, installation of option certain features service rearrangements. In addition, an Access Order Charge, as specified in 5.2 (Access Order Charges), is also applicable in those cases.

6.6.1(D) Installation of Service: Non-Recurring charges apply to each Access Service installed. The charge is applied per line or Trunk.

6.7. Application of Rates and Charges

6.7.1. Regulations governing the rates and charges which apply for Switched Access Service. There are three types of rates and charges that apply to the various rate elements for Switched Access Service. These are nonrecurring charges, monthly recurring rates (including fixed and per mile rates) and usage rates.

6.7.2. Specific Rates and Charges are set forth in 6.9 (Rates and Charges). Jurisdictional Report Requirements are set forth in 2.3.3 (Jurisdictional Report Requirements). Ordering, rating and billing procedures as specified in 2.5.2(I) (Jointly Provided Access Service) will apply for access services where more than one LEC is involved.

6.7.3. Reserved For Future Use.

6.7.4 Monthly Recurring and Usage Rates (including fixed and per mile rates) are flat recurring rates that apply each month or fraction thereof that a specific rate element is provided. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

Usage rates for each line or trunk are rates that apply on a per unit basis (e.g., per call, per access minute or per access minute per mile) when a specific rate element is used. Usage charges are accumulated over a monthly period.

6.7.5 Dedicated Access is assessed based on the total of the monthly facilities charge and monthly usage charges as applicable. The monthly facilities charge consists of a fixed rate

based on the type of the facilities, i.e., DS1 or DS3, and a per mile rate. Nonrecurring charges and the fixed rate and the per mile rate will be calculated on an Individual Case Basis.

#### 6.8 Billing of Access Minutes

When recording originating calls over FGD with multifrequency address signaling, usage measurement begins when the first wink supervisory signal is forwarded from the Customer's facilities. The measurement of originating call usage over FGD ends when the originating FGD entry switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating End User's Local Switching Center (indicating that the originating End User has disconnected), or the Customer's facilities, whichever is recognized first by the entry switch.

For terminating calls over FGD with multifrequency address signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when a seizure signal is received from the Carrier's Trunk group at the Point of Presence within the LATA. The measurement of terminating call usage over FGD ends when a disconnect signal is received, indicating that either the originating or terminating user has disconnected.

When recording originating calls over FGD with SS7 signaling, usage measurement begins with the transmission of the initial address message by the switch for direct trunk groups and with the receipt of an exit message by the switch for tandem trunk groups. The measurement of originating FGD usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

For terminating calls over FGD with SS7 signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating recording switch receives the initial address message from the terminating End User. On directly routed trunk groups or on tandem routed trunk groups, the Company switch receives the initial address message and sends the indication to the Customer in the form of an answer message. The measurement of terminating FGD call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

#### 6.9 Rates and Charges

The rate levels specified herein for Carrier's Carrier charges covered by the FCC's order in Access Charge Reform, Reform of Access Charges Imposed by Competitive Local Exchange Carriers, CC Docket No 96-262, 7<sup>th</sup> Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 16 FCC Rcd 9923 (2001) ("*CLEC Access Charge Reform Order*") shall apply except to the extent they exceed the rate charged (either composite or for the individual functions provided by Company) to the ILEC in the area as of the date specified by the Commission in that order. To the extent the rate specified in this tariff is higher than the ILEC rate, then the ILEC rate shall apply.

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<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Rate Per Month</u>
6.9.1 Service Implementation	
6.9.1(A). Service Ordering Charge,	
Per DS-1	ICB
Per DS-3	ICB
6.9.2 Change Charges, Per Order,	
Service Date	ICB
Design Changes	ICB
Expedite Charge	ICB
6.9.3 Cancellation Charges, Per Order	ICB
6.9.4 Switched Transport	
6.9.4(A). Direct Trunked Transport	
<u>Voice Grade</u>	
Fixed	
0 Miles	\$0.00
Over 0 Miles	\$5.50
Per Mile	
0 Miles	\$0.00
Over 0 Miles	\$0.36
<u>DS1 (per DS1)</u>	
Per Mile	\$5.40
Per Termination	\$28.84
<u>Non Recurring Charge</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> DS1	\$408.00
Each Additional DS1	\$314.00
<u>DS3</u>	
Per Mile	\$44.00
Per Termination	\$556.00
<u>Non Recurring Charge</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> DS3	\$473.00
Each Additional DS3	\$341.00

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6.9.4(B). Entrance Facility

Voice Grade

2-wire (monthly)	\$8.45
4-wire (monthly)	\$19.50

Non Recurring

2-wire (per channel)	
1 <sup>st</sup> Channel	\$166.00
Each Additional Channel	\$116.00

Non Recurring

4-wire (per channel)	
1 <sup>st</sup> Channel	\$201.00
Each Additional Channel	\$149.00

DS1

Monthly	\$105.18
Non Recurring	
1 <sup>st</sup> DS1	\$600.00
Each Additional DS1	\$456.40

DS3

Monthly	\$1,168.00
Non Recurring	
1 <sup>st</sup> DS3	\$605.00
Each Additional DS3	\$496.00

6.9.4(C) Switched Transport

6.9.4(C)1. Rate Element Rate Per Minute

Tandem Switched Common Transport	
Per Access Minute Per Mile	\$0.000003
Per Access Minute	\$0.000058
Tandem Switching Per Access Minute	\$0.000315
Host/Remote Transmission	
Rate per Access Minute	\$0.000215
Rate per Access Minute Per Mile	\$0.000019

Switched Transport Multiplexing

DS1 to Voice Grade (Per Month Per Multiplexer)	\$113.20
DS3 to DS1 (Per Month Per Multiplexer)	\$556.00

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